

Statement of intent:
Kisan Mazdoor Commission (KMC)

Convinced that well-being of farmers is not just about economic survival of a majority of Indian households, it is about our national dignity, diversity, civilizational heritage, freedom movement legacy, constitutional vision, economic, ecological and social justice, Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles of State Policy; Farmers are not just a residue from our past; farmers, agriculture and villages are integral to the future of India and the world; and,

Recognising our responsibility to farmers artisans and working people as honest hard workers who face numerous challenges emerging from climate change, unsustainable urbanity and disruptions due to the violations of the planetary boundaries by the societies practising imperial mode of living; as bearers of historical knowledge, skills and culture; as social carriers of food safety, diets, health, food and nutritional security and sovereignty of the people over natural resources and wealth of the country; as custodians of agro-biodiversity and biodiversity of forests, lakes and oceans and ecological sustainability;

Recalling the principles of economic viability; ecological integrity: integrating environment; conservation and health and equality with social, economic and ecological justice; and

Feeling alarmed at economic, ecological, social and existential crisis of Indian agriculture; growing corporate control of agriculture, ecological degradation and destruction affecting farmers and their livelihoods; unprecedented increase in land degradation, destruction of agricultural lands and associated resources, commercialization and privatization of water and biodiversity, and

Concerned about forced displacement, deprivation and migration affecting dignity, development, security of food and livelihood; persisting neglect of agriculture, discrimination against rural economy and town and village enterprises; increasing vulnerability of farming community to extortion by the village powerful, government officials and corporates, and

Wanting to resist deepening penetration of large, predatory and profiteering corporations that are in control of agricultural value chains and systems; spate of suicides of farmers, daily wage workers, vulnerable students, youth and women and unbearable burden of indebtedness; widening disparities between farmers and other sectors and growing attacks on the struggles of farmers, workers and unemployed youth by the Indian State apparatus and the corporate apparatus and ;

Solemnly affirm our constitutional right to work for the life and dignified livelihood for Kisans and mazdoors; social security and protection against natural and other calamities; land, water, forest and all natural resources including common property

resources; diversity in seeds, food systems and ecologically and socially just technological choices; and, freedom of expression, organization, representation and struggle through constitutional means for realization of our demands and shaping our future;

Therefore, decide to form a Kisan Mazdoor Commission to interact with and learn from the kisans, mazdoors and scholars about the way forward for the realization of the above stated goals, propose policies, build institutions and establish a standing mechanism to pursue the aspiration of kisans and mazdoors and join hands with the movements working for the wellbeing of agrarian communities and assess the status of recommendations made by Swaminathan Commission in 2006.

An Initiative by
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Background Note on the Kisan Mazdoor Commission (KMC)

The meeting of the Nation for Farmers (NFF) for the formation of Kisan Mazdoor Commission (KMC) took place on June 14-15, 2023 in New Delhi¹. The June 14-15 meeting attempted to focus on the new and emerging challenges of primary producers, artisans and rural workers in a systematic manner and make recommendations on the viability and sustainability of agriculture and allied sectors. The inaugural meeting for the formation of Kisan (Farmers) and Gramin (Rural) Mazdoors (Labour) Commission took place on August 16, 2023 at New Delhi. At this meeting of the KMC, the members present approved the draft Terms of Reference (ToR), adopted the Statement of Intent and mandated the Secretariat to organize study groups, prepare Agenda 2024, take steps to make the process inclusive and expand the reach of the KMC to a larger number of organizations and experts. The objective of the KMC was to go beyond the recommendations of Swaminathan Commission in the light of challenges arising out of the growing corporate control on the supply of farm inputs resulting in the rising cost of production for farmers and on the markets for agricultural produce leading to the loss of incomes from farming.

The KMC terms of reference (ToRs) include the work on the development of alternatives to current policies favouring the corporate takeover of agricultural production and accelerating the challenges emerging for the farming systems in practice on account of degradation of health, of landscape, soil, water, and biodiversity and climate crisis. The KMC is collaborating with the regional / sectoral level organizations of Women farmers, Dalit, Nomadic and Adivasi farmers; Landowners, Tenants, Sharecroppers, Agricultural Labourers and Plantation Workers; Fish workers, Milk Producers, Poultry Farmers, Livestock Rearers, Pastoralists, and Collectors of Minor Forest Produce.

The KMC's priorities include the formulation of the Agenda for 2024 on agriculture and allied sectors. The study groups have been formed on the themes of rising cost of production, income enhancement, trade and investment (WTO and FTAs), rural credit and insurance, common pool resources, ecological challenge, food and nutrition, women farmers and rural non-farm enterprises. The burning issues that the KMC proposes to look into are—Electricity Amendment Act, policy on water which is a basic right, pension scheme, Forest Rights Act implementation, MGNREGA implementation, policies on fisheries, rain fed dry land agriculture, climate crisis, biodiversity loss and seed systems. The KMC is planning to hold special consultations on the subjects of Land Rights for Women Farmers including the women as agricultural workers, rights of rural labour which will include all the basic

¹ The Nation for Farmers (NFF), consisting of activists from various walks of life, originated with the intent of supporting the All India Kisan Sangarash Coordination Committee (AIKSCC) rally at Delhi in 2018. The NFF has been closely collaborating with various kisan and agricultural workers organizations to mobilize support within the wider democratic movement for the Kisan Andolan.

rights – not just wages but access to capabilities and markets and the connections of agrarian crisis, environmental degradation and climate crisis.

Meeting with local groups to seek inputs for the proposed KMC were held in Pune (August 27, 2023); Chennai (???); Patna (December 04, 2023); and Hyderabad (January 26-27, 2024). Thematic meetings were held on August 26, 2023; October 26-27, 2023; November 21, 2023; and on December 6, 2023. Follow up meetings would be held with scientists and researchers associated with various concerned institutions across the country.

Various thematic groups have already been set up: Analysis of Cost of Production and Income Sources; Analysis of Public & Private Investments; Farming Systems; Agricultural R & D; Agri-Digitalization; Rural Labour; Nutrition & Food Safety; Commons; Trade & Investment; Credit & Insurance; Women Farmers; Climate Change; etc., are some of the areas where work is already in progress.

The KMC is working with experts working on crop cultivation, shifting cultivation, agro-forestry, horticulture, apiculture, sericulture, vermiculture, artisanal groups involved in local processing, production of inputs, equipment and machines; cooperatives and group farming, women self-help groups and labour collectives. An eight-member empowered group with Prof. Jagmohan Singh, Vijoo Krishnan, Navsharan Kaur, Roma Malik, Dinesh Abrol, P. Sainath, Thomas Franco and Nikhil Dey has been constituted to select members of the proposed Kisan Mazdoor Commission (KMC). Prof. Jagmohan Singh was nominated as the **Convenor of the KMC**.

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Kisan Mazdoor Commission (KMC)

Terms of Reference

1. Analysis of the current patterns of cost of production and income sources
2. Analysis of the current directions of public investment
3. Analysis of the patterns of rural debt, insurance, credit and finance
4. Analysis of the access to land & water, employment and wages, opportunities for livelihoods for landless, women, dalits, adivasis, minority and ethnic groups, MNREGA and
5. Analysis of the innovation, extension, research and technology sources
6. Analysis of the policies & institutions of the Governments and Corporates for market development, price control, regulations and standards, trade and private investment of farmers and business, rural industrialization
7. Analysis of the changing patterns of access to resources, agro-ecosystem health, land use, landscape planning
8. Analysis of the challenge of regenerative agriculture, farming system(s) transformations and integration of nutrition and food safety
9. Analysis of the status of commons, natural resource management, mitigation of / adaptation to climate change
10. Analysis of local governance, policies on gau raksha, animal slaughter, human - animal / wildlife conflict, benefits of government schemes for all the different sections of farming populations
11. Analysis of the land conflicts and land acquisition
12. Analysis of the agricultural digitalization strategy
13. Alternate Policies

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Kisan Mazdoor Commission (KMC): Agenda 2024 for Agriculture & Allied Sectors Executive Summary

Right to land, water and commons for all

- a) Provide for equitable access to land and water: legislate for homesteads for the rural poor; grant land rights to landless for cultivation; promote kitchen gardens, backyard poultry, cattle sheds and group farming.
- b) Place all above-ceiling land presently held by public or private entities under control of the state and union government for the redistribution to the landless: for example – the land held by CIDCOs, state industrial estates, or Railways and SOEs, and lands sliding into corporate control, acquired for SEZs, but failed to achieve the stated public purpose.
- c) Create a register of tenants and provide smallholders with secure tenancy. Give tenant farmers statutory support, recognise tenants as beneficiaries of schemes announced for individual benefits, and access to benefits from sector wide schemes financed through public investment.
- d) Recognize women as farmers and grant them land rights, secure their tenancy rights over leased lands.
- e) Recognize land rights of Adivasi farmers, implement Forest Rights Act (FRA), review all rejections under FRA, and roll back pro-corporate amendments to Indian Forest Act, 1927.

Right to Food, Employment, Education, Health and Social Protection

- a. Expand and provide for a universal public food distribution system for the delivery of cereals and nutri-cereals, pulses, sugar and oils without linking it to Aadhar or biometric identification and without shifting to direct cash transfer;
- b. Stop the unbridled expansion of privatization of public services, ensure education and health through public sector, and universalise water and sanitation, healthcare and quality education for all.
- c. Ensure job security and minimum wage by extending the number of workdays from 100 to 200 workdays in rural areas @ Rs. 800 wages per day, implement existing provision of 100 days of MGNREGA without creating digital hurdles,
- d. Introduce a provision of 100 days of labour support for the SC, ST, and other small and marginal farmers for land development and for the adoption of integrated farming systems (IFS) including natural farming, thus 200 days of rural employment @ Rs. 800 wages per day.
- e. Enact old age pensions;
- f. Provide childcare and crèche facilities in agricultural workspaces.
- g. Provide for separate courts for protection against caste, ethnic, religious, gender based oppression;
- h. Introduce Urban Employment Guarantee Act, guarantee employment for graduates from rural households in near-by towns;

Right to public and bank finance, production inputs, knowledge and market

- a. Guarantee extra budgetary resources to states from the 15th finance commission for raising the level of gross capital formation in agriculture as a percentage of GDP from the current level of 15.7% to 30%.
- b. Guarantee primary producers freedom from debt by implementing complete (formal and informal) loan waiver, restore the right of primary producers to priority lending, stop co-lending to delink farmers from the high-cost economy in agriculture; reduce the risks faced from climate change in respect of pursuing agriculture & allied sector occupations;

- c. Create a single-window loan facility for small holders to promote integrated farming, strengthen SHGs and Kudambashree-type of institutions to enable women farmers to access agriculture credit from public banking;
- d. Guarantee remunerative prices for agricultural commodities establish an effective system of public procurement of all farm produce declared as essential produce/value added products by rural households through cooperatives for the promotion of sustainable rural livelihoods and for the creation of a universal public distribution system;
- e. Guarantee access to publicly-regulated markets purchasing the primary produce at the minimum support price (MSP) not lower than C2 costs plus 50 % for the products declared as essential commodities for production by state legislatures. That should also be done with union government ensuring finance for public procurement and a price stabilization fund;
- f. Take agriculture out of WTO, no more free trade agreements (FTAs), and no more patent like intellectual property rights (IPRs) on seeds;
- g. Withdraw from the agreements signed by ICAR with Bayer, Amazon and other MNCs, guarantee research, advice, testing and extension through public sector undertakings, pave the way for national ownership and control of infrastructure required for agri-digitalization and agri-tech delivery;.
- h. Reintroduce sectoral reservation through legislation for the products attracting AGMARK label to encourage value addition through cooperatives, micro and small businesses & PSUs in order to keep big business out of local markets;
- i. Ensure agro-ecologically coupled integration of primary, secondary and tertiary industries, and restore state/district level planning by establishing statutory boards for scientific and equitable land use, area planning, market development, and promotion of value addition to co-products and by-products through group enterprises.
- j. Separate Fisheries Ministry in Central and State Governments with the mandate to protect and promote sustainable fisheries and the livelihood of small-scale fish workers including fishers, fish farmers, fish vendors and other ancillary fish workers;
- k. Establish a National Commission for Fisheries to look after policy implementation, inter-state disputes, protection and promotion of the rights and entitlements of small-scale fishing communities.
- l. Create in every state "State Commissions for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare";
- m. Stop entry of private Dairy Corporate Companies and import of foreign dairy products that threaten existence of India's Dairy Cooperatives;
- n. Abandon plan to open the Indian market by permitting Free Trade on milk and milk based products;
- o. Ensure remunerative price for milk and milk products;
- p. Reopen cattle trade markets;
- q. End stray cattle menace.
- r. Provide public assistance for the rejuvenation of common property resources;
- s. Grant the right to pool resources for value addition and formation of local collectives such as Kisan Mazdoor Cooperatives/group enterprises (KMCs).

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Kisan Mazdoor Commission (KMC)

Agenda 2024

Introduction

Eighty three per cent of the Union Government budget for agriculture in 2024 is allocated for individual beneficiary-based schemes of income support. A classic example is the Rs. 6,000 annually given to landed farmer households under the Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana. Tenant cultivators constituting close to forty per cent of all farmers do not and will not receive income support. The Modi government has drastically reduced support measures that impact the whole sector. An overwhelming share of investments in fixed assets in agriculture now comes from the farmer households themselves –82%. Public sector investment is merely 15%.

The private corporate sector accounts for just 3 per cent of investments in agriculture. Yet, the government is rapidly transferring assets to it from the public sector. The control of public assets created for agricultural education, research and extension, production and distribution of farm inputs is the latest development. Critically, agricultural credit, electricity generation, transmission and distribution, are now under the control of big business. Procurement, agro processing, food processing, value addition in agro-produce are all moving in the direction of private control. Private corporations care for neither mother earth nor farmers.

Corporates promote one-size-fits-all solutions. Adverse impacts of these solutions are making farming unviable. Corporate solutions harm agro-ecosystem services namely soil health, water quality, crop diversity, animal diversity, and natural predator and pollinator populations. The Indian Council Agricultural Research has entered partnerships with Bayer, Amazon and other giant corporations for agricultural research and extension services. Corporate capture of agriculture means a potential hijack of the small farmer-centric mandate. Public sector research programs will now directly promote corporate agendas.

Red carpet treatment for private corporations in the Experimental Field Stations for research and extension is the latest development. Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)— agricultural extension centres that link and give farmers access to research and training – will also come under their control. Corporates have been given contracts for the digitalization of agriculture. Private corporations will own the data collected from the fields of farmers relating to crops and soil health. This increasing control will enable them further lock farmers into dependence on their expensive agricultural inputs.

The Modi Government is facilitating corporate control over the supply of inputs and knowledge. The Pradhan Mantri Samridhi Kisan Kendras (PMKSKs) – meant to be ‘One-Stop shops’ for farm related inputs and services –will largely be run by commission agents controlled by agri-input suppliers. Solutions pushed by agribusiness will impact negatively on food quality and prices. Such consequences are now observable for all types of farmers across all agroecological regions.

The agricultural and rural workers are the worst hit; the deepening agrarian crisis coupled with the use of labour displacing technology has reduced the availability of work to minimal level resulting in underemployment and unemployment for rural labour. Lakhs of small and marginal farmers have been forced to sell their land. Artisans have also lost their work and many are forced to work as agricultural labourers. Currently, the share of cultivators is 45.2 per cent, and that of agricultural labourers has risen to 55 per cent. The real wages of agricultural and rural labourers has not increased and are stagnant.

Most of the agricultural workers are Dalits and tribals who are not only economically exploited but are also socially oppressed denied of access to land and other resources such as water, fodder and fuel,

and are forced to depend on social welfare measures. Dalits and Adivasis have been forced into casual work and in many cases displaced due to diversion of land grabs and lands for industry and urbanization. These sections perform significant proportion of the farm work, and the work within fisheries, animal husbandry and forest related occupations.

The predominance of women across vulnerable social groups highlights the discriminatory tendencies within rural society and economy. The participation of women in paid agricultural work has been declining; their dependence on agriculture has not decreased. Many farmers including agricultural labourers are dying by suicide. Youth are exiting agriculture. Corporates have neither an interest nor the capacity to offer region-specific solutions. They centralize knowledge to maximize surplus. Corporates treat nature as a source of rent. And also utilize market power and control as a source of rent.

Corporate capture of agriculture means, among other things, continued import of pulses, oilseeds and wheat from the US, Australia, Canada, and *virtual* exports of land, water and cheap labour from India to serve them in respect of their exotic food requirements which they are not in position to grow. This division of labour would seriously threaten the sustenance, even survival, of small and marginal farmers and rural labour. Bayer has recruited large landowners to sell cattle feed and other products to small farmers. Large landowners with the help of private corporations are taking over procurement of milk from the small farmers for Nestle.

Amul, a cooperative of Gujarat farmers, has chosen to replace its cooperative structure with a corporate structure. The Union Government seeks to introduce the corporate model in the cooperative sector. The launch of the Grain Storage Project in the Cooperative Sector,' through Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) is also an attempt to corporatize the farmers' cooperatives. The implementation of this project is taking place through convergence of Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) and Agriculture Marketing Infrastructure (AMI). , Subsidies and interest subvention benefits for undertaking infrastructure development will be restricted to the participating PACS. Attempt is to bring the corporates into the cooperative sector. Corporates are entering through the backdoor under the guise of new schemes for agricultural infrastructure development, credit and cooperative sector.

Small holders need to be actively supported by Union and State governments through the cooperative structure. Corporate approach means ultimately death knell for the small holder agriculture. The challenge of climate change demands the adoption of integrated farming systems approach that will considerably reduce the risk of small and marginal farmers. We need to reduce negative impacts of excessive use of inputs, particularly inputs of a chemical nature. We need to encourage recycling and improve input and resource use efficiency. Ecologically integrated farm inputs and resources are the need of the hour. Kisans need support from rural labour to adopt the methods of sustainable farming.

The Modi government seeks to transfer control of common lands to the corporate sector for solar installations, wind power and bio-fuel production. Common land resources need to be protected for the benefit of food production and soil health. Water bodies, grazing lands, trees and livestock need to be conserved. Only kisans in alliance with rural labour can rationalise and reduce the use of costly external inputs. Corporate power can be challenged in production by farmers and labour with the public sector on their side. An alternate win-win agenda for farmers, rural labour, self-reliant agriculture and local value addition is desirable. It will only be possible with science and bank finance standing on their side rather than on the side of the private corporate sector.

The entire set up has been imposed on India by Western corporations with their governments acting through the toxic ecosystem made possible by the WTO. Farmer protests across the world are linked

in some way with the devastation that the transnational corporate sector subjects farmers to everywhere. We call upon the Government of India to withdraw agriculture from the purview of the WTO. **Simply put: Get the WTO out of agriculture. We cannot allow the forces of corporate globalization to swallow agriculture and farmers. A world without agriculture and farmers is neither feasible nor desirable.**

The Kisan Andolan at the gates of Delhi from November 2020 to December 2021 was a historic turning point. For the first time ever, the farmers of the country were openly confronting corporate power. The discredited three farm laws were drafted not in parliament but in corporate board rooms. A defeated government cannot be allowed to reintroduce these laws through the backdoor.

With the formation of Kisan Mazdoor Commission (KMC) the “Nation for Farmers” platform having members from across the country seeks to mobilize the support of the Indian people, scientists and state governments for much needed legislative action. The Union Government and State Governments need to stand with the farmers, rural labour, consumers, women and youth of rural areas. Society as a whole needs to rapidly act against the policy path promoting corporate control of agriculture.

India needs farmers to practice agriculture to survive. India cannot do that under the present WTO-corporate-driven framework. Farming under big business control means far fewer jobs for youth and decimation of farming households. With this in view, the KMC secretariat has drafted **Agenda 2024** to mobilize support within political parties against corporate penetration into the industries and institutions involved with the supply of all types of agricultural input(s), knowledge production, dissemination and utilization activity and the processing of produce and products.

The KMC is committed to mobilising support for the Farmers, Agricultural Workers, and Fisher folk, Livestock Farmers, Pastoralists, Dalits, Adivasis, Women and Rural Youth. They are worse impacted by the rapidly deepening agrarian crisis. Given below is the draft agenda framed by the Kisan Mazdoor Commission (KMC) secretariat for a wider public deliberation.

KMC Draft Agenda 2024

KMC seeks support for meeting the demands listed below:

1. Land rights related demands:

- a. Land reforms remain an unfinished agenda. Worse still, there has been extensive encroachment of public lands, including commons and unregulated diversion of cultivable land for non-agricultural and speculative purposes. There is an urgent need of systematic land survey in every state and clear land use policy. Legislate homesteads for the rural poor and grant land rights to landless for cultivation, kitchen gardens, and backyard poultry, and group farming. Place all above-ceiling land presently held by public or private entities under control of the state agricultural department – the redistribution to the landless. For example, the excess land held by CIDCOs, state industrial estates, or Railways, or those sliding into corporate control be redistributed
- b. Tenant Rights: Create a register of tenants and provide smallholders with secure tenancy. Tenant farmers must be made eligible for all schemes applicable to land-owning farmers. That needs legislative and statutory support.

- c. Provide protection against creation of land banks and guarantee protection against transfer of lands in rural areas to the corporates in the name of acquisition for industrial, renewable energy and urban development.
- d. Provide in the law for co-benefits in the form of a share in revenue/rents / jobs from enterprises built on the lands acquired from farmers.
- e. Recognise the rights and entitlements of women farmers and grant them land rights.

2. Guarantee right based social protection measures:

- a. Expand and provide for a universal public food distribution system for the delivery of cereals and nutri-cereals, pulses, sugar and oils without linking it to Aadhar or biometric identification and without shifting to direct cash transfer;
- b. The unbridled expansion of privatization of education and health is a serious drain on the meagre resources of farming households. Guarantee Universal healthcare and quality education,
- c. Ensure job security and minimum wage by extending the number of workdays from 100 to 200 workdays, implement existing provision of 100 days under MGNREGA without creating hurdles, introduce a provision of 100 days of labour support for the SC, ST, and other small and marginal farmers for land development, integrated farming systems (IFS) including natural farming, thus assuring 200 days of rural employment @ Rs. 800 wage per day.
- d. Introduce Urban Employment Guarantee Act and enact old age pensions;
- e. Provide childcare and crèche facilities in agricultural workspaces.
- f. Provide for separate courts for protection against caste, ethnic, religious, gender based oppression. Ensure the access of socially marginalised groups to land and water;

3. Commons and local self-government related demands:

- a. Legally recognise the rights of the poor, landless, Dalits and women to village / public commons.
- b. Provide public assistance for the rejuvenation of common property resources. Grant the right to pool those resources for value addition and formation of local collectives in the way of Kisan Mazdoor Cooperatives / group enterprises (KMCs),
- c. Ensure effective implementation of forest rights act (FRA), expand and recognise community land rights under FRA, roll back amendments to Forest Conservation Act ensure access to forest produce for all forest dwellers, amend Indian Forest Act 1927 to provide for social control of participation in the governance of forests. That would include the activities related to agriculture and take steps to prevent the evolving human-wildlife conflict detrimental to the lives and livelihoods of people settled around the forest areas;
- d. Reclassify wastelands and grasslands as essential ecosystems to be used by village communities. Stop allocation of wastelands for solar panel installations to the corporates, reserve the bio-resources for soil fertility. And permit no

more allocation of bio-resources for the production of bio-fuels and compressed biogas for mobility sector use;

- e. Legislate to grant to the local self-governments/state governments the power to advance the “Commons Protection and Rejuvenation” agenda with all sections of the rural community receiving their respective entitlements and assurance of agro-ecosystem services protection. That would be through the preservation of tanks, ponds, wetlands, grasslands, local grazing lands, forests, rivers, ocean in a healthy way;
- f. Create laws ensuring the right to seek redressal of grievances building up from the menace of stray animals by removing all legal and vigilante-imposed restrictions on cattle trade, compensating farmers for destruction of crops by wild and stray animals. Support animal shelters and rejuvenate commons which are the natural habitat of wildlife presently at conflict with farmers.
- g. Create local capacities for self-governance with public funds in order to provide a helping hand to the village communities for the development of economic opportunity streams from healthy, restored commons with clear rights and institutions;
- h. Stop the dilution of the 73rd and 74th Amendments and grant budgetary support on priority to the village councils and village assemblies (gram sabhas) after ensuring the preparation of inclusive plans for local area development;

4. Agricultural credit

- a. Guarantee primary producers freedom from debt by implementing complete (formal and informal) loan waiver.
- b. Restore the right of primary producers to priority lending.
- c. Credit should go back to farmers, no more transfer of agricultural credit to agri-business.
- d. Stop co-lending to provide for competitive input and output markets.
- e. Create a single-window loan facility for all agri-allied sectors to promote integrated farming.
- f. Strengthen the role of SHGs and Kudambashree-type of institutions in enabling women farmers to access agriculture credit from public banking.
- g. Create in every state a “State Commission for Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare”.

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5. Production systems:

- a. Inputs:
 - De-link farmers from the high-cost economy in agriculture, and heed the two decades old-wakeup call on soil health enhancement. Reconfigure PM-PRANAM scheme by shifting emphasis from ‘Zero budget’ to the integrated farming including natural farming with adequate budget support to farming households to develop bio-inputs and meet the increased labor intensity, without reducing overall support for agricultural input subsidies.
 - Abandon One Nation, One Fertilizer scheme. Withdraw PM Kisan Samriddhi Kendras scheme.

- Guarantee public provisioning of agricultural inputs declared as essential by the state legislatures.
 - Regulate prices, interest charges and insurance premiums for the inputs declared as essential to ensure secure and affordable access to low cost external inputs to make farming viable.
 - Stop the loot of peasantry by the private sector through PMFBY in provision of crop insurance; replace with a just crop and livestock insurance system run by state providers;
 - De-link farmers from the high-cost economy in agriculture and reduce the risks they face in pursuing their occupation.
 - Grant of fixed endowment of: (i) electricity to the farmers to meet their water requirements for agricultural operations without adding any fresh burden of costs; (ii) seeds and (iii) bio-inputs
 - Create laws to ensure a minimum share of water and biomass to landless farmers, women farmers, dalit farmers and rural workers engaged in rural non-farm occupations. In value terms that should be not less than 40% of the total gained by the village community from the investment of Union/State government irrigation schemes (major as well as minor)/watershed/afforestation projects;
 - Grant primary producers the first right of access to bio-mass (grains, crop residue as well as co-products and by-products) required for the soil health, local use and value addition.
 - Promote decentralised, local production of bio-inputs.
 - Provide a labour subsidy of 50 days to small producers and tenant cultivators ready to diversify into labour intensive farming (e.g. agro-forestry, mixed cropping, cereal legume-based cropping systems, animal husbandry, and aquaculture).
 - Promote local seed conservation and breeding for not just yield, but also resilience to disease and physical stresses.
- b.** Offer public assistance to primary producers directly through the state / local self-government seeking to incentivise the use of land for the promotion of agro-ecosystem specific cereal legume based cropping systems / integrated farming systems (crop-livestock integration), farm ponds, hedges, vegetable gardens, backyard poultry, agro-forestry, kitchen gardens, livestock shelter, machinery hiring stations and local storage facilities,
- c.** Village councils and state governments must have the right to participate in the determination of product, process and area-level system wide standards. That means standards required for the promotion of sustainable use of resources and infrastructure.
- d.** Every agricultural university in the country needs to be mandated to study climate change in their States/regions and make public their findings.
- e.** Implementing schemes for soil health improvement and sustainable farming should be made the mandate of agricultural universities and state agricultural departments.

6. Marketing:

- a. Guarantee remunerative prices for agricultural commodities through the establishment of an effective system of public procurement of all farm produce essential for the promotion of sustainable rural livelihoods and a universal public distribution system.
- b. Guarantee access to publicly-regulated markets purchasing the primary produce at the minimum support price (MSP) not lower than C2 costs plus 50 % for the products declared as essential commodities for production by state legislatures. That to also be done with union government ensuring finance for public procurement and a price stabilization fund;
- c. No transaction below minimum support price (MSP) for agro-produce;
- d. Diversify and decentralize public procurement scheme (rice, wheat, pulses, oilseeds, millets...);
- e. Promote Kisan Mazdoor cooperatives against corporate agriculture, particularly promote women cooperatives.
- f. No to free trade agreements (FTAs). Take agriculture out of WTO.
- g. No to patent like intellectual property rights (IPRs) on seeds

7. Education, Research and Development and Extension

- a. Stop privatization of public sector research, extension and education.
- b. Ensure agro-ecologically coupled integration of primary, secondary and tertiary industries through the restoration of state / district level planning,
- c. Secure knowledge support for local production of organic manure and bio-inputs to prioritize INM, IPM, IFS, landscape planning land use change management to enable cost reduction and wasteful private investment,
- d. Redevelop krishi vigyan kendras (KVKs) as public infrastructure. They should be viewed as an essential public service.
- e. Restore the pre-reform level of professional staff for agricultural extension. That means filling the vacancies within state agricultural departments, public sector R&D institutions, NABARD and other such institutions. At every stage, see that farmers are also drafted into the process of rebuilding the extension machinery.
- f. Withdraw from the agreements signed by ICAR with Bayer, Amazon and other MNCs.

8. Reconfigure agricultural value systems

- a. Guarantee protection against corporate capture of agricultural value chains. Change competition law to curb growth of monopolies. Revitalize public sector in marketing of agricultural produce, agro-processing and food processing.
- b. Reintroduce sectoral reservation in the case of products attracting the AGMARK label to encourage value addition through cooperatives, micro and small businesses, and the public sector.
- c. Restore the primacy of public sector in the case of essential infrastructure requirements of digital infrastructure, market development, agricultural education, and research and extension systems.

9. Public investment

- a. Guarantee extra budgetary resources to states from the 15th finance commission for raising the level of gross capital formation in agriculture as a percentage of GDP from the current level of 15.7% to 30%.
- b. Increase public expenditure on irrigation, research & development, extension services, market infrastructure, etc.
- c. Restore the primacy of public sector in agriculture through policy change, and amend suitably the Model Agriculture Produce and Livestock Marketing Act, etc.
- d. Guarantee public financial support for transformation towards climate resilient and low-emission agriculture. This can be achieved through three interlinked pathways: public funds for restoring agro-ecosystem services, promoting resilient agriculture, and facilitating climate informed public advisory and risk management services, and reconfiguring food systems.

10. Digitalisation in agriculture

- a. Withdraw from agreements inked by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare through Agri-Stack with MNCs for agri-digitalization.
- b. Digitalisation in agriculture should be developed as a commons which is owned and controlled by farmers and the government policy should reflect this.
- c. Provide support to platform cooperatives and act against the government-initiated privatization of data and network systems under implementation through agri-Stack,
- d. Pave the way for national ownership of infrastructure required for agri-digitalization.

11. Democratization of policymaking

- a. Stop back door entry of the three discredited, now withdrawn, farm laws through the Union Government's usurpation of powers of the state governments.
- b. Prevent Bill Melinda Gates Foundation, World Bank and USAID from determining the policies and programmes of agriculture and allied sectors.
- c. Special session of Parliament and State legislatures on agrarian issues

Part II Highlights of sectional & sectoral consolidation of demands of socially marginalized sections (Women, Adivasis, Dalits and Rural Labour)

Women

- a. Recognize women as farmers: secure their tenancy rights over leased lands.
- b. Provide equal pay for paid agricultural work for women.
- c. Remove Aadhaar based enrolment and compulsory attendance in MGNREGS.
- d. Waive loans to widows of farmers who have died due to agrarian crisis and provide them infrastructure and support for agriculture.

- e. Expand SHG bank linkage programme in National Rural Livelihood Mission and ban MFIs from getting bank loans under priority sector.
- f. Promote women's cooperative (like kudumshree collective farming efforts, fish processing and livestock cooperatives, promotion of minor forest produce etc.) through state budgetary support.
- g. Enact legal guarantees for social protection and occupational safety of women agricultural and non-farm workers: ensure creche and nutrition support.
- h. Secure rights over water, common and grazing lands.
- i. Secure support for nutrition and health care for women and children: provide neighbourhood child care centres and creches.

Adivasis

- a. Implement Forest Rights Act and roll back pro-corporate amendments to Indian Forest Act, 1927. Review all rejections under FRA.
- b. Recognize land rights of Adivasis and carry out land reforms.
- c. Implement PESA to prevent land grabs and recognize communal rights on land.
- d. Reverse privatization of mines, minerals and other common resources. Provide land for land and adequate rehabilitation packages to displaced adivasi families.
- e. Provide minimum support price for non-timber forest produce and regulate exploitation by traders.
- f. Punish harassment of adivasi women by forest and other officials.
- g. Provide support through MGNREGS for development of ST lands and assets in villages (water bodies etc).

Dalits

- a. Land reforms to ensure security of tenure for small and marginal dalit farmers.
- b. Measures to reduce untouchability and discrimination in labour practices. Punish those practicing untouchability on farms.
- c. Ensure equal wages for same work; remove wage discrimination.
- d. Remove discrimination in access to common lands and water bodies.
- e. Allow work on own lands under MGNREGS.
- f. Provide low interest loans and access to markets for dalit artisans and small scale fishing dependent families.

Rural Labour

- a. Enact Rural Labour Social Protection Act and laws for Occupational Safety of Rural Labour.
- b. Recognize labour rights through monitoring of implementation of minimum wages and equal wages acts.
- c. Provide 200 days of MNREGA work: subsidize small and marginal farmers working on own lands by ensuring 100 days of labour subsidy to work on their own farms. .
- d. Provide support and social security to family labour.

- e. Regulate unfair practices of contractors, especially on contract and industrial farms.
- f. One time loan waivers and to dalit agricultural workers.

Fisheries

- a. Separate Fisheries Ministry in Central and State Governments with the mandate to protect and promote sustainable fisheries and the livelihood of small-scale fish workers including fishers, fish farmers, fish vendors and other ancillary fish workers;
- b. Establish a National Commission for Fisheries to look into policy implementation, inter-state disputes, protection and promotion of the rights and entitlements of small-scale fishing communities.
- c. Ensure the following rights and entitlements of small-scale fishing communities –
- d. Declare traditional fishermen as scheduled tribe
- e. Ensure tenurial rights, governance rights and right to economic empowerment & finance and infrastructure, quality inputs and technology
- f. Legislate for right to social security & livelihood support and women fish workers' rights.
- g. Stop coastal mapping without proper consultation, and the amendments made in Coastal Regulation Act should be revisited with people's participation;
- h. Attempts to corporatize oceanic resources in the garb of projects such as 'Sagarmala', 'Blue Ocean Economy', 'Deep Sea exploration for Oil and Minerals' etc., should be thwarted

Animal Husbandry

- a. Stop entry of private Dairy Corporate Companies and import of foreign dairy products that threaten existence of Dairy Cooperatives;
- b. Abandon plan to open the Indian market by permitting Free Trade on milk and milk based products;
- c. Ensure remunerative price for milk and milk products;
- d. Reopen cattle trade markets;
- e. End stray cattle menace.

Cooperatives

- a. Provide public assistance for the rejuvenation of common property resources;
- b. Grant the right to pool resources for value addition and formation of local collectives such as Kisan Mazdoor Cooperatives/group enterprises (KMCs),

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